

In the Claims

Claims 1-35 are canceled.

36. [Previously Presented] A semiconductor workpiece processing method comprising:

providing a semiconductor process chamber;

supplying slurry to the semiconductor process chamber;

monitoring the turbidity of the slurry during the supplying using a sensor, wherein the monitoring comprises:

emitting electromagnetic energy towards the slurry; and

receiving at least some of the electromagnetic energy.

37. [Original] The method according to claim 36 wherein the supplying comprises using a supply connection and the monitoring comprises monitoring slurry within the supply connection.

38. [Original] The method according to claim 37 further comprising coupling the sensor with the supply connection.

39. Canceled.

40. [Original] The method according to claim 36 further comprising generating a signal indicative of the turbidity after the monitoring.

41. [Original] The method according to claim 36 further comprising insulating the slurry from the sensor.

42. [Original] The method according to claim 36 wherein the providing comprises providing a chemical-mechanical polishing process chamber.

Claims 43-52 are canceled.

53. [Original] A semiconductor workpiece processing method comprising:  
providing a semiconductor processor having a process chamber configured to receive a semiconductor workpiece;  
supplying slurry to the process chamber using a connection;  
emitting electromagnetic energy towards the connection using a sensor;  
receiving at least some of the electromagnetic energy using the sensor; and  
generating a signal indicative of turbidity of the slurry responsive to the receiving.

54. [Original] The method according to claim 53 wherein the emitting comprises emitting infrared electromagnetic energy.

55. [Original] The method according to claim 53 further comprising substantially insulating the slurry from the sensor.

56. [Original] The method according to claim 53 wherein the providing comprises providing chemical-mechanical polishing semiconductor processor.

57. [Original] The method according to claim 53 further comprising attaching the sensor to the connection and detaching the sensor from the connection while maintaining the supplying.

58. [Original] A semiconductor workpiece processing method comprising:  
providing a semiconductor processor having a process chamber configured to receive a semiconductor workpiece;  
supplying slurry to the process chamber using a connection;  
emitting infrared electromagnetic energy using a source;  
splitting the infrared electromagnetic energy to direct some of the infrared electromagnetic energy towards the connection;  
first receiving at least some of the infrared electromagnetic energy passing through the connection using a first receiver;  
generating a feedback signal using the first receiver responsive to the first receiving;

adjusting the emitting via the source responsive to the feedback signal to provide a substantially constant amount of electromagnetic energy to the first receiver; second receiving at least some of the infrared electromagnetic energy not passing through the connection using a second receiver; and generating a signal indicative of turbidity of the slurry using the second receiver responsive to the second receiving.

59. [Previously Presented] The method according to claim 36 further comprising providing the slurry and the monitoring comprises monitoring after the providing.

60. [Previously Presented] The method according to claim 37 wherein the supply connection is configured to supply the slurry in at least a partially horizontal direction.

61. [Previously Presented] A semiconductor workpiece processing method comprising:

providing a semiconductor process chamber;  
supplying slurry to the semiconductor process chamber;  
monitoring the turbidity of the slurry during the supplying using a sensor; and insulating the slurry from the sensor.

62. [Currently Amended] A semiconductor workpiece processing method comprising:

providing a semiconductor process chamber;

supplying slurry to the semiconductor process chamber using a supply connection;

monitoring the turbidity of the slurry within the supply connection during the supplying, wherein the monitoring comprises monitoring using a sensor; and

wherein the supply connection is configured to supply the slurry in at least a partially horizontal direction and the sensor is configured to monitor the slurry while being supplied in the at least partially horizontal direction.

63. [Previously Presented] The method according to claim 36 wherein the supplying comprises directly supplying the slurry to the semiconductor process chamber with no modification of a physical property of the slurry after the monitoring.

64. [Previously Presented] A semiconductor workpiece processing method comprising:

providing a semiconductor process chamber;

supplying slurry to the semiconductor process chamber; and

monitoring the turbidity of the slurry during the supplying using a sensor; and

wherein the supplying comprises directly supplying the slurry to the semiconductor process chamber with no modification of a physical property of the slurry after the monitoring.

65. [Previously Presented] The method according to claim 53 wherein the supplying comprises directly supplying the slurry to the process chamber with no modification of a physical property of the slurry after passage of the slurry through the connection.